Nineteen of the seventy-four works in the Museum of Modern Art's current exhibition Recent Painting USA: The Figure have been sold since the show opened May 23. Prices range from $150 for "Saturn" by Kenneth Bushnell, a young painter from Hawaii, to $8,000 for "Coronation" by the well-known New York artist, Joseph Hirsch. The remaining paintings will be for sale for the duration of the exhibition. Closing date has been changed from September 4 to August 28.

Seven of the nineteen artists whose paintings were sold have never before exhibited in New York: William Aiken, Robert Hansen, Richard Hornaday and Ruth Sharff Roseman, all from California; Harrison Covington from Florida; Robert Jergens from Ohio; and Bushnell. Six are local painters: Robert Beauchamp, William Clutz, Maurice Golubov, Dorothy Koppleman, Ronni Solbert and Hirsch. Others, whose work has been exhibited in New York galleries and museums, are Sidney Goodman from Pennsylvania; Jacob Landau, New Jersey; Eugene Leake, Maryland; Robert A. Nelson, North Dakota; Paul Wonner, California and Robert de Niro, Paris.

The fourth in a series of national exhibitions organized by the Junior Council of the Museum, Recent Painting USA: The Figure is being presented to explore recent directions in the painting of the figure by American artists. The works were selected from almost 10,000 entries submitted by artists in 48 states. After the New York showing it will travel to Columbus, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Colorado Springs, St. Louis, San Francisco, Milwaukee and New Orleans.

Photographs and further information available from Nancy Reed, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, New York, Circle 5-8900.